

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. - 9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) An electrically driven power steering apparatus comprising:

a housing;

a ball screw shaft extending within said housing and connected to a steering mechanism;

a motor having a rotor;

a ball screw nut, connected to said rotor of said motor, for converting a rotational force of said m[[r]]otor into a force acting in an axial direction and transferring the same force to said ball screw shaft;

a bearing for supporting said ball screw nut so as to rotatable with respect to said housing; and

a presser member, screwed to said ball screw nut, for thus pressing said bearing against said ball screw nut,

wherein said presser member has a thread for engaging with a thread of ~~includes a connection member for connecting said presser member to said ball screw nut, and a connecting device capable of limiting a relative rotation between said presser member and said ball screw nut even if a bonding force between the threads is lost so that said presser member and said ball screw nut are unable to relatively rotate.~~

11. (Currently Amended) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said ~~connection member~~ connecting device limits the relative rotation between ~~connects~~ said presser member ~~to and~~ said ball screw nut, by means ~~so as to be unable to relatively rotate~~

by use of a shearing force of a ~~resinous material~~ resin member filled into communication holes
respectively provided with said presser member and said ball screw nut.

12. (Currently Amended) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said ~~connection member connects~~ connecting device limits the relative rotation between said presser member to and said ball screw nut, by a part of said presser member deformed toward said ball screw nut so as to be unable to relatively rotate by use of a frictional force.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (New) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the relative rotation between said presser member and said ball screw nut is limited by a frictional force exerted between a deformed part of said presser member and said ball screw nut.

16. (New) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 10, wherein a filler is coated on the thread of said presser member.

17. (New) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said presser member has the female thread, and said ball screw nut has the male thread engaged with the female thread.

18. (New) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said presser member abuts to said bearing rotatably supporting said ball screw nut.

19. (New) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said presser member has a part with which a tool for rotating said pressing member is engaged.

20. (New) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said presser member is attached to said ball screw nut with a torque small enough not to cause a deformation of the circulation path in said ball screw nut.

21. (New) An electrically driven power steering apparatus comprising:

- a housing;
- a ball screw shaft extending within said housing and connected to a steering mechanism;
- a motor having a rotor;
- a ball screw nut, connected to said rotor of said motor, for converting a rotational force of said motor into a force acting in an axial direction and transferring the same force to said ball screw shaft;
- a bearing for supporting said ball screw nut so as to be rotatable with respect to said housing; and
- a presser member, screwed to said ball screw nut, for thus pressing said bearing against said ball screw nut,

wherein said presser member has a connecting device capable of limiting a relative rotation between said presser member and said ball screw nut, by deforming at least on e part of a thin cylindrical portion toward said ball screw nut.

22. (New) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the relative rotation between said presser member and said ball screw nut is limited by a frictional force exerted between the deformed part of said thin cylindrical portion and said ball screw nut.

23. (New) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 21, wherein a filler is coated on a thread of said presser member.

24. (New) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said presser member has a female thread, and said ball screw nut has a male thread engaged with the female thread.

25. (New) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said presser member abuts to said bearing rotatably supporting said ball screw nut.

26. (New) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said presser member has a part with which a tool for rotating said pressing member is engaged.

27. (New) An electrically driven power steering apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said presser member is attached to said ball screw nut with a torque small enough not to cause a deformation of the circulation path in said ball screw nut.